

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A surgical needle which comprises:

a base portion having a root diameter; and

a tapered end portion extending from said base portion to a pointed end,

5 the tapered end portion defining at least a first and second region, wherein the first region having an average taper ratio of approximately 2.76:1 and the second region having an average taper ratio of approximately 5.65:1.

2. The surgical needle according to claim 1 wherein the first region

incorporates a length which is approximately 1/5 of the overall length of the tapered end

10 portion.